

Consortium for On- Board Optics (COBO)

BRAD BOOTH, CHAIR

COBO Goals

Organization to develop specifications to permit the use of on-board optical modules

Targeted at network switches and server adapters

Reference industry specifications where possible

Develop specifications where required

Attention to electrical interfaces, pin-outs, connectors, thermals, etc. for interchangeable and interoperable optical modules

Reduced power requirements in switches and server adapters for optical interfaces

Increased switch faceplate bandwidth density

COBO Status

Organization

- Launched consortium on March 23, 2015
- Converting to a non-profit, mutual-benefit corporation

Meetings

- Met April 14th at Arista Networks and June 17th at Microsoft
- Meeting July 31st in Ottawa, ON hosted by JDSU (Lumentum) and Cisco
- Meeting in San Jose, CA the week of Oct. 19th

Working Groups

- Host to module electrical interface
- Host board interface (connector, thermal, mechanical)
- Use cases and system reliability

COBO Founding Members (17)



Associate Members (29)



More Information



Website: <http://cobo.azurewebsites.net>

Backup

Growing Trend of Solutions

On-board or embedded optics have been available for over a decade

- 300-pin MSA is one example

Today, most are proprietary and targeted solutions

Growing use of optics

- Datacenter networks
- Consumer applications
- Industrial, etc.

Time to pull the industry together

- Bring “greatness” of z-axis pluggable optics to the y-axis

